

Northeast Middle School
5960 Brickstone Drive
Mint Hill, NC 28227



November 26, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope the school year has started successfully for all of you. As a parent/guardian of a student in Northeast Middle School, I am writing this letter to let you know that Northeast Middle School, has been designated as a Targeted Support & Improvement-Consistently Underperforming (TSI-CU) school by the North Carolina State Board of Education. ESSA Section 1111(d)(2) stated that North Carolina had to identify schools for targeted support and improvement. TSI-CU schools in North Carolina have student subgroup(s) that are consistently underperforming.

This opportunity intends to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction.

As a TSI-CU school, Northeast Middle School, is required to develop a comprehensive plan that specifically addresses how the school will improve student achievement. The plan will also include how our district will support us and monitor our school's progress. The comprehensive plan will address the following areas:

- Classroom Management
- Standards-aligned Instruction
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Instructional Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention of Effective Teachers
- Implementation of a Tiered Instructional System
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Student Support Services
- Family and Community Engagement

We have set the following goals for Northeast Middle School this year:

- Duty-free planning: Provide a duty-free instructional planning time for every teacher under G.S.115C-105.27 and -301.1, with the goal of proving an average of at least five hours of planning time per week, with the maximum extent that the safety and proper supervision of students may allow during regular student contact hours.
- Duty Free Lunch: To provide a duty-free lunch period for every teacher on a daily basis.
- Bullying Prevention: Provide a positive school climate, under CMS regulation JICK-R, by promoting a safe learning environment free of bullying and harassing behaviors.
- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on reading End of Grade assessments in grades 6-8 will increase from 14.0% in SY2023-24 to 24.0% in SY2024-25.
- The percent of students scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on Math 1 assessments will increase from 66.7% in SY2023-24 to 76.7% in SY2024-25.

- The percent of students identified as Students with Disabilities scoring College and Career Ready (CCR) on the Reading End of Grade assessments in grades 6-8 will increase from 2.1% in SY2023-24 to 12.1% in SY2024-25.
- In grades 6-8, the percent of students receiving one or more days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) will decrease from 14.3% in SY2023-24 to 10.0% in SY2024-25.
- The school will retain 100% of its highly effective classroom teachers throughout the 2024-25.
- The percent of Chronic Absenteeism will decrease from 29.56% in SY 2023-24 to 19.56% in SY 2024-25.
- The percent of students scoring GLP on the 8th Grade Science assessment will increase from 58.4% in SY2023-24 to 68.4% in SY2024-25.

Here are some strategies that we will be implementing to improve student outcomes:

- The Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) will develop and execute a school-wide data analysis protocol for PLCs to analyze and review common assessment data at least once a week to inform small group planning.
- PLCs will review formative assessment data each Tuesday to review data trends and standards mastery to inform whole group reteaching and small group instruction.
- PLCs will meet each Thursday to plan lessons in alignment with the rigor of the grade level unpacked standards and the CMS adopted curricula for the following week.
- The Math MCL and Literacy Master Teacher have been hired to support teachers with lesson planning and data analysis.
- ILT will meet weekly to discuss PLC and walkthrough trends, strengths, and areas of opportunity to inform next steps for each PLC.
- The principal will develop a weekly walkthrough calendar with strategic look fors to assess the current state of curriculum implementation, tiered interventions, and classroom management.
- The principal and ILT will provide immediate feedback through a Walkthrough Form to provide feedback and coaching to build capacity of staff.
- Title I funds will be used to partner with a UNCC Coach to support new teachers and select staff to provide strategic supports and coaching.
- The ILT and MTSS Leadership Team will use formative data (i.e., Fall Student EVAAS Projections, iReady data, MVPA Benchmark Data) to develop WIN Groups which will provide daily tiered instructional support for students.
- After each MVPA benchmark, the Instructional Leadership Team will provide half-day data dives to provide strategic coaching and small group action plans.
- The administrative team will establish clear protocols for staff to utilize PBIS Rewards to allow staff to consistently award students for positive behaviors around our S.O.A.R. (Safe, Organized, Accountable, and Respectful).
- The ILT will facilitate Small Group PLC meetings to support teachers in the planning and execution of small group instruction.

Also, parent engagement is at the heart of our school improvement efforts. Here are some ways we can work together:

- Ensure that both you and your student know the academic expectations set for your student this school year. A list of learning objectives in student-friendly language is available from your student's teacher(s).
- Call or email your student's grade level counselor if you have questions or concerns about your

student or to set up an appointment to meet with a school staff member who will be working with your child.

- Jessica Fenyves, jessica1.fenyves@cms.k12.nc.us or at 980-343-6920 (6th Grade and 7th Grade, Last Names A-K)
- Joanne Brown, joannea.brown@cms.k12.nc.us or at 980-343-6920 (8th Grade, and 7th Grade, Last Names L-Z)
- Make sure that your student is prepared and attends school each day.
- Monitor your student's homework.
- Monitor the progress your student is making and attend meetings with your student's teacher(s).
 - To get connected to PowerSchool Parent to monitor your student's grades, call the front office at 980-343-6920.
- Keep track of our website and social media sites:
 - [School Website](#)
 - [NMS Instagram](#)
- Volunteer. Call Ms. Hobday at 980-343-6920 to learn about volunteer opportunities.
- Join the PTSA.

Additionally, listed below are a few resources available to help:

- Graduation requirements: www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/
- K-12 standards in academic subjects: www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/
- State student achievement test results: www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/
- N.C. School Report Cards: <https://ncreportcards.ondemand.sas.com/src>

We are committed to improving student performance. It is important to remember that just as no single score or grade tells the whole story of a student, neither does it tell you everything about a school's performance or the opportunities that our school provides. The intent of receiving these designations is to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. We're excited about this school year and are working to make it a success for your student.

If you have questions about the content of this letter, please contact Leisa Christian at l.christian@cms.12.nc.us or call 980-343-6920.

Sincerely,

Leisa Christian
Principal